



Managua, August 7, 2020.

**To Directors, Advisors and Delegates;**

**Dear DALE (Academic Debates for Student Leaders) Family,**

We hope that when you receive this message you will be well, together with your families and that you will be successfully coping with each of your personal activities.

Taking into account the world situation that we are facing, we hope that everyone is in good health and, as we all know, we are living in difficult times that force us to make changes and postpone activities that we had previously planned. For this reason, the **DALE Nicaragua** Program recognizes the risks involved in holding a face-to-face conference and for this reason we are forced to have to make a change in logistics to ensure the well-being and safety of all participants.

In light of this, the **Board of Directors** for the VIII Congress has decided to postpone the annual conference until the month of April in the year 2021. This change will have many implications within the participation of each organizing member and different delegates. All the members of our staff are informed of these changes and the new policies that will be adopted; so if you have any questions, you can ask any Board member or Committee Chair.

For now, this also means that until the situation improves, we will not have face-to-face practices as there have been in previous years and we will continue with the online activities by committees in small groups. In the online activities we will be working on speaking skills and knowledge of the rules of parliamentary procedure and debating current issues that will serve to keep Delegates informed of the different events in the region. All these activities can be found on our website [www.dale-nicaragua.com](http://www.dale-nicaragua.com) under “Calendario de Prácticas”.

In addition to pushing the Conference date, we have decided that in order to have a lower concentration of people at the Camino Real Hotel, we will use a four-day Conference calendar. In other words, half of the committees will participate the first two days, and the other half the last two days. This, along with a reduced number of participants per committee, will allow maintaining an adequate distance between students at all times during the conference. This logistical method will be explained to a more extensive degree within every committee.

Consequently, during these four days of the conference, we will be taking greater measures to ensure the well-being of all participants. Firstly, the use of face masks will be required at all times to reduce the risk of contagion. Likewise, adequate hygiene measures will be taken inside and outside the committee rooms. We will also have alcohol gel available in all our rooms, as well as in the corridors. In the same way, we will be taking the temperature of the attendees in general, upon entering to ensure that the participants are in good health for the good of all.



For now, we won't be accepting payments until the end of October. If you wish to be enrolled in a specific committee to have your place secured, we recommend that you contact your Committee Directors. If by April 2021 you will not be enrolled in Secondary but would have been on the original date in October 2020, please contact our Recruitment Director, Frida Montealegre ([frida.montealegre@lincoln.edu.ni](mailto:frida.montealegre@lincoln.edu.ni)), who will explain in detail our efforts so that you can be part of this Conference.

Finally, we would like to ask for your patience and understanding. Like many educational institutions and international conventions, we cannot predict how our country will look in the coming months. Keep in mind that all these changes are due to the current situation and that if circumstances change for better or for worse, we will be modifying these measures. What we can promise you is complete transparency and updated information on what we are deciding according to the management of the founding schools that are our main sponsors.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to write to us and we will gladly answer you as soon as possible. Rest assured that our purpose is to provide you with a quality Conference and without putting the health of any member or participant of this Congress at risk. We hope to see you soon and that you are encouraged to join our online events.

**¡Our best wishes to you and all of your families!**

**Attentively,**

**Board of Directors**  
**VIII DALE Congress**